bio-technology, for development of new and improved varieties of plants to achieve higher yields, greater nutrition value, shorter crop period, higher food security, increased exports, etc.

Exploitation of Marine Wealth

2520. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many countries are exploiting the marine products from the ocean;

(b) if so, whether Government have any scheme or proposal to exploit marine wealth to feed the country's millions;

(c) if so, whether any budgetary provision has been made for 2002-2003; and

(d) what are the schemes/products Government propose to Extract?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have been implementing several Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the coastal States such as Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations, National Welfare of Fishermen and Coastal Aquaculture.

(c) The budgetary provision of Rs. 16.00 crores have been made for the year 2002-2003 for implementing these schemes.

(d) The schemes are aimed at increasing marine fish production and to provide better post harvest care to achieve higher per capita availability of fish.

Pill to prevent the effects of Nuclear Radiation

2521. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medical scientists have been able to invent a pill, to prevent the effects of nuclear radiation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;